



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS,** celebrating and cooking seafood are central to the cultural heritage of Louisiana, and seafood harvest has contributed greatly to the coastal economy of the Gulf of Mexico; and

**WHEREAS,** Louisiana's French, Spanish, Croatian, African, and Italian people, among others, still have brave the elements, as in early days, with the determination that has made them examples of independent and self-reliant business people; and

**WHEREAS,** many of these independent commercial fishermen still own and operate their own family boats or manage their own family processing plants, as they have for generations; and

**WHEREAS,** every Louisianan has the opportunity to enjoy high quality fish and shellfish, confident that our seafood is second to none anywhere else; and

**WHEREAS,** the dockside value of Louisiana's fisheries is over 290 million dollars; and all told, the seafood industry represents a multi-billion dollar impact to the state of Louisiana and provides 29,245 jobs; and

**WHEREAS,** Louisiana is consistently one of the country's top seafood producers and, of the top ten fishery port cities in terms of quantity of fish landed, three are in Louisiana; and

**WHEREAS,** American consumers rank shrimp and oysters in their top ten favorite seafood, and Louisiana is the leading producer of these species; and

**WHEREAS,** Louisiana is famous for its culinary excellence and, thereby, attracts visitors from around the country and from across the globe; and

**WHEREAS,** Louisiana Seafood is the "Main Ingredient."

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Kathleen Babineaux Blanco, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2005, as

**SEAFOOD AWARENESS MONTH**

in the State of Louisiana.



Attest By  
The Governor

*[Signature]*  
Secretary of State

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set  
my hand officially and caused to be affixed the  
Great Seal of the State of Louisiana, at the  
Capitol, in the City of Baton Rouge, on this  
the 29th day of July  
A.D., 2005.

*[Signature]*  
Governor of Louisiana